

(h) if so, the cost at which the factory was set up, its annual production and when it is expected to start production ;

(c) what will be the quality of the paper produced ;

(d) the extent to which foreign exchange will be saved as a result of production of paper at the factory ; and

(e) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to set up such a factory in Andhra Pradesh also, if so, details thereof and if not reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARII MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Ltd. with an annual capacity of 50,000 tonnes of newsprint and 40,000 ton-

nes of writing and printing paper has been set up at a cost of Rs. 230 crores. Production of newsprint has already commenced in the unit.

(c) The quality of newsprint produced by the factory is expected to be on par with that of other units in the country.

(d) At full production of newsprint from the unit, foreign exchange to the extent of about Rs. 30 crores is expected to be saved.

(e) The Central Government have no proposal at present under consideration to set up such an unit in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Letters of Intent as indicated below have however been granted for setting up capacity for manufacture of newsprint in the state of Andhra Pradesh ; which are under various stages of implementation :

Name	Location	Annual installed capacity	Process
1. Shri B. Hanumantha Rao	Vijaygwada Distt. Krishna	40,000	De-inking
2. Shri Cleetus Vincent	Teh. and District Srikakulam	30,000	-do-
3. M/s. Deccan Cements	Tehsil Masulipatnam Distt. Krishna	40,000	-do-
4. Shri Sarvarayalu	-do-	80,000	-do-

Expansion and Modernisation of Telex Net Work

149. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have announced high priority for the expansion and modernisation of the telex net work in the country ;

(b) if so, the number of electronic telex exchanges to be set up in the country together with location thereof during Seventh Plan ;

(c) the extent to which these exchanges will be in a position to meet the requirements ;

(d) whether some such exchanges will be set up in Andhra Pradesh, if so, locations thereof together with their capacity ; and

(e) the expected expenditure to be incurred in the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 4 Electronic Telex Exchanges have already been set up at Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras. During the 7th plan, 10 more electronic telex exchanges are proposed to be set up at :

Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Jaipur, Erna-

kulam, Gauhati, Hyderabad, Chandigarh, Pune Lucknow and Baroda.

A number of small electronic telex exchanges are also proposed to be set up at other locations depending on demands justifying financial viability.

(c) The exchange capacities proposed would meet the requirements of the stations fully.

(d) Yes Sir.

Hyderabad	2000 lines
Niazabad	20 lines
Jeedimatla	20 lines
Chilkaluripet	20 lines
Nizamabad	20 lines

In addition small electronic telex exchanges for about 14 stations are proposed in Andhra Pradesh. These will depend on availability of firm demands and financial viability.

(e) A rough estimate of expenditure on the electronic telex installations in Andhra Pradesh would be about Rs. 445 lakhs.

Increase in rate of Royalty on Oil

150. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision to raise royalty on oil as requested by Government of Gujarat has since been taken ;

(b) if so, when and the details thereof ;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and by when the decision is likely to be taken in this regard ;

(d) when the rate of royalty was fixed last ;

(e) since then how much prices of petrol and petroleum products have increased ; and

(f) the rate of royalty being paid to the State of Assam and other oil producing States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Discussions between Chief Minister of Gujarat and the Minister of Petroleum are yet to take place.

(d) The rate of royalty on crude oil was last fixed with effect from 1.4.1981.

(e) The price increase of different petroleum products ranges from 15% to 45%.

(f) The rate of royalty being paid to the State of Assam and other oil producing States is Rs. 61/- per metric tonne.

Crisis due to Inadequate Growth in Fertilizer Consumption

151. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fertilizer industry in the country is facing great crisis due to the inadequate growth in fertilizer consumption ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether any study has been made to know the causes and the steps taken to improve the situation ;

(c) the quantity of fertilizers imported during the year 1984-85 and the amount involved ; and

(d) the Government policy in regard to the production and import of fertilizers during the year 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The quantity and value of imports of fertilizers during the year 1984-85 are furnished below :

Quantity (In lakh tonnes)				Approximate C & F Value of imports (Rs. in crores)
N	P	K	Total Quantity	
20.30	7.45	8.71	36.46	1435.0

(d) It is Government's policy to maximise indigenous production through optimum output from existing plants and establishment of additional fertilizer capacities keeping in view the available resources and other